



YRBSS

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey: 1991-2005

Trends in the Prevalence of Selected Risk Behaviors

What Is the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)?

The national YRBS monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	Changes from 1991 – 2005 ¹	Change from 2003 – 2005 ²
Rarely or never wore a seatbelt (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)									
25.9 (±5.3) ³	19.1 (±2.6)	21.7 (±3.4)	19.3 (±3.4)	16.4 (±2.8)	14.1 (±1.7)	18.2 (±4.2)	10.2 (±1.8)	Decreased, 1991 – 2005	Decreased
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (In a car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
39.9 (±2.2)	35.3 (±2.6)	38.8 (±3.7)	36.6 (±2.1)	33.1 (±2.2)	30.7 (±2.0)	30.2 (±2.1)	28.5 (±1.9)	Decreased, 1991 – 2005	No change
Carried a weapon (For example, a gun, knife, or club on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
26.1 (±2.3)	22.1 (±2.3)	20.0 (±1.3)	18.3 (±1.8)	17.3 (±1.9)	17.4 (±1.9)	17.1 (±1.8)	18.5 (±1.6)	Decreased, 1991 – 1999 No change, 1999 – 2005	No change
In a physical fight (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)									
42.5 (±2.4)	41.8 (±1.9)	38.7 (±2.1)	36.6 (±2.0)	35.7 (±2.3)	33.2 (±1.4)	33.0 (±1.9)	35.9 (±1.5)	Decreased, 1991 – 2003 Increased, 2003 – 2005	Increased
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)									
7.3 (±0.9)	8.6 (±0.8)	8.7 (±0.8)	7.7 (±0.9)	8.3 (±1.0)	8.8 (±0.8)	8.5 (±1.1)	8.4 (±0.9)	No change, 1991 – 2005	No change
Current cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
27.5 (±2.7)	30.5 (±1.9)	34.8 (±2.3)	36.4 (±2.3)	34.8 (±2.5)	28.5 (±2.0)	21.9 (±2.1)	23.0 (±2.3)	Increased, 1991 – 1997 Decreased, 1997 – 2005	No change
Current smokeless tobacco use (Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
NA ⁴	NA	11.4 (±1.7)	9.3 (±2.2)	7.8 (±2.2)	8.2 (±1.5)	6.7 (±1.5)	8.0 (±1.4)	Decreased, 1995 – 2005	No change

¹ Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

² Based on t-test analyses.

³ 95% confidence interval.

⁴ Not available.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	Changes from 1991 – 2005 ¹	Change from 2003 – 2005 ²
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
50.8 (± 2.8) ³	48.0 (± 2.1)	51.6 (± 2.3)	50.8 (± 2.8)	50.0 (± 2.5)	47.1 (± 2.2)	44.9 (± 2.4)	43.3 (± 2.7)	No change, 1991 – 1999 Decreased, 1999 – 2005	No change
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
14.7 (± 2.1)	17.7 (± 2.4)	25.3 (± 1.8)	26.2 (± 2.2)	26.7 (± 2.5)	23.9 (± 1.5)	22.4 (± 2.1)	20.2 (± 1.6)	Increased, 1991 – 1999 Decreased, 1999 – 2005	No change
Current cocaine use (Used any form of cocaine one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)									
1.7 (± 0.5)	1.9 (± 0.4)	3.1 (± 0.8)	3.3 (± 0.5)	4.0 (± 0.7)	4.2 (± 0.7)	4.1 (± 0.9)	3.4 (± 0.6)	Increased, 1991 – 2001 No change, 2001 – 2005	No change
Ever had sexual intercourse									
54.1 (± 3.5)	53.0 (± 2.7)	53.1 (± 4.5)	48.4 (± 3.1)	49.9 (± 3.7)	45.6 (± 2.3)	46.7 (± 2.6)	46.8 (± 3.3)	Decreased, 1991 – 2005	No change
Condom use during last sexual intercourse (Among currently sexually active students.)									
46.2 (± 3.3)	52.8 (± 2.7)	54.4 (± 3.5)	56.8 (± 1.6)	58.0 (± 4.2)	57.9 (± 2.2)	63.0 (± 2.5)	62.8 (± 2.1)	Increased, 1991 – 2005	No change
Did not participate in any vigorous or moderate physical activity (During the 7 days preceding the survey.)									
NA ⁴	NA	NA	NA	9.4 (± 1.1)	9.5 (± 0.7)	11.5 (± 2.0)	9.6 (± 0.9)	No change, 1999 – 2005	No change
Attended physical education classes daily (Five days in an average week when they were in school.)									
41.6 (± 5.5)	34.3 (± 4.8)	25.4 (± 9.4)	27.4 (± 5.6)	29.1 (± 9.5)	32.2 (± 4.9)	28.4 (± 5.7)	33.0 (± 5.3)	Decreased, 1991 – 1995 No change, 1995 – 2005	No change
Overweight ($\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data.)									
NA	NA	NA	NA	10.7 (± 1.2)	10.5 (± 1.0)	12.1 (± 1.3)	13.1 (± 0.9)	Increased, 1999 – 2005	No change

¹ Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

² Based on t-test analyses.

³ 95% confidence interval.

⁴ Not available.

Where can I get more information? Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss> or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

